

# The Southern Counties

## Arizona Balks

The segments of the Boulder Dam "power pudding" determined and the shares allocated last fortnight (News Review, Oct. 28-Nov. 3), thirty, power-needy cities, States, utilities sat back, believed squabbling at an end; waited for Dame Wilbur to proceed in baking the long-anticipated water-and-power pudding at Boulder Dam. Secretary of the Interior Wilbur had given the primary allocations to the Metropolitan Water District, the City of Los Angeles, the Southern California Edison Co. He had made provision, however, that should Arizona, Nevada, a few unaccounted-for cities, want power pudding too, the States should have not exceeding 18 per cent of the total; the cities, not exceeding 4 per cent. What he failed to realize, however, was that temperamental Arizona would balk; would demand more than 18 per cent.

Last week Arizona balked. At Phoenix the Arizona Colorado River Commission studied Secretary Wilbur's allocation and was dissatisfied. For some time the Arizona commissioners had felt that Southern California was attempting to "hog" the whole pudding. Last week they were sure of it. Therefore they severed relations with California and Nevada, abandoned the tri-state compact which is necessary for Boulder construction, and prepared to bring suit in the U. S. Supreme Court to stop the project.

To newsgatherers, Chairman Charles H. Ward of the Arizona Commission epitomized the basis of Arizona's complaint. Said he: "We have reached the point where it is evident that Arizona is to be compacted with California and Nevada. From our experiences of negotiating with California for division of water we believe further negotiations would be futile."

"Southern California wants practically all the water available in the river for irrigation purposes in Imperial, Coachella and other interior valleys. . . and seems unable or unwilling to make any modifications of these demands. For Arizona to concede what she has made no developments in California and not in Arizona. Furthermore, the Imperial and Coachella valleys are to receive water for irrigation purposes without paying anything whatsoever; no such grant has been extended to Arizona."

Other grievances 1) "Southern California cities are afforded a vast water storage in Arizona without cost to them and in connection therewith are to enjoy the great output of electrical power to be produced by the project, free from Arizona taxation." 2) It was generally expected to pay approximately \$1.50 per acre foot and delivery charges on water diverted to the coastal plain. It now appears the charge of only 25 cents per foot.

3) The project was intentionally placed at the nearest available point to the California power market and the most remote point to the Arizona market. 4) For some time it has been evident that California wanted to get the matter of water power contracts completed with the Secretary of the Interior before seeking a compact with Arizona, thus removing water and power revenues under the Swing-Johnson bill as subjects of negotiation. 5) In its present form and purpose our commission is advised and firmly believes that the Swing-Johnson bill is unconstitutional."

Dr. Elwood Mead, Commissioner of Reclamation and engineer in charge of the Boulder project, was not surprised at the Decision of Arizona to test the constitutionality of the enabling bill. He "half way expected the move." Arizona's action, thought Mead, would delay the Boulder Dam project for more than six months or a year, depending upon "what sort of legal action Arizona resorted to."

The California-Colorado River Commission, on the other hand, was amazed. Said W. B. Matthews, California commission member: "At the meeting of the California and Arizona river commissions a few weeks ago there was no intimation at adjournment that Arizona would take any such action." Matthews believed the matter would be amicably settled.

At Reno, Nevada's Governor Balzar expressed surprise and advised of Arizona's relations with Nevada and California. The pre-



WILLIAM M. GARLAND  
... provided over stock-takers

vailing opinion of Nevada is that it has exhausted all efforts to obtain an agreement with Arizona on power allocation and that further conference would prove useless.

Secretary Wilbur next week will hear the pleas of all petitioners dissatisfied with the present arrangement of power allocation. From many a section seeking water from Boulder Dam, representatives are expected to convene with the Secretary. From San Bernardino, as its representative, goes Congressman Phil Swing, of El Centro, to protest Secretary Wilbur's present allocation plans. Congressman Swing personally is opposed to the plans; he believes too much power has been granted to the power corporations.

## Mexican Storks

More Mexican storks, bearing brown-skinned infants, alighted through the California heavens, swoop down on over-populated Mexican slums each year. Thousands of wee-dusky babes are annually deposited in sordid homes where they are non-toe-welcome; decrease in the Mexican birth rate, they fitly surroundings, improper feeding.

Were it not for the high infant mortality rate among Mexicans, prolific Mexican breeding would prove itself an even greater State menace than at present, last week Public Health Director Walter M. Dickie told Governor C. C. Young. He showed His Excellency statistics which estimated Mexican births to be 17.7 per cent of the State's total, an increase of two and one-half per cent in four years. Gravely concerned over the report were both Health Director Dickie and Governor Young. They knitted their brows, pondered together, confessed themselves at a loss; could evolve no legal way to decrease in the Mexican birth rate. With mingled alarm and relief they noted the high death rate; saw that 2030 of the 13,846 Mexican babies born during 1928 had died during infancy.

The Mexican birth percentage in practically all southern counties is double that of the State average; in the case of Imperial County, is three times as great. Southern county percentages: San Bernardino, 44.5; Riverside, 43.6; Ventura, 39.5; Orange, 38.3; Santa Barbara, 33.8; San Diego, 31.5; Los Angeles, 26.3; Kern, 21.1; San Luis Obispo, 11.2.

Highest individual community percentages were: Calexico, 71.8; and Brawley, 64.4.

## State Panorama

At Los Angeles' Alexandria Hotel last week, 550 men, prominent, representing 54 counties of California all the way from the Oregon line to the international border, met in an annual stock-taking of California development. The 550 men composed the State Chamber of Commerce, which in the words of President William May Garland assembled this year to "aid the

## State in developing itself in an orderly manner.

For two days, nine committees took under consideration problems under the following subject heads: Aeronautics, Agriculture, Conservation, Foreign Trade, Highways, Highway Safety, Industry, Publicity and Research. At the initial gathering last Thursday, the committees met, discussed their topics and made recommendations. On the second and final day of the session, committees, who the day before had made decisions, gathered around a huge table, reported on development in their particular fields of activity. At this assembly, a verbal panorama of industrial and agricultural California was unfolded, each committee told of its decisions and recommended their adoption.

Main decisions reached by the principal committees were:

1. To send Agriculture Director R. N. Wilson to Washington as an aid to Federal Farm Board Member C. C. Teague, in urging that no quota legislation be enacted against Mexican immigration until a Federal commission made a complete study of the problem.

2. To sign up large land-owners along highways to the agreement not to permit hot-dog stands, signs and other offensive advertising along the scenic routes.

3. To have the aeronautical committee work out a proposed standard zoning scheme for airports, so as to eliminate high tension wires, other menaces.

4. To carry on a campaign for extension of the use of iron and steel products in California within and without the State.

5. To promote a "foreign trade week" for the week of February 16-22.

6. To urge a Congressional appropriation of \$26,000,000 for reclamation of the Mediterranean fruit fly in Florida.

7. To refer to a committee the proposal to give the State Fish and Game Commission plenary powers over fish and game seasons, districts, legal bag, et cetera.

In honor of the State Chamber of Commerce, on the first day of the session, the Los Angeles Chamber was host at a luncheon. Governor Young, down from Sacramento to attend, was the only speaker. (See "The Governor.")

## Historic

In San Bernardino County, near Chino, was fought 87 years ago the battle of Santa Ana del Chino Rancho. Body-strewn, blood-soaked was the battle ground where Mexicans and Americans fought doggedly, knived one another, made history.

Throughout California are other sites, also famed; as yet undesignated, unconserved, unmarked, citizens, loyal pioneers want markings erected on this, on other historic spots; last week vigorously upheld the request of Highland County, W. Beattie, State Historical Markings Committee member, that the Chino battle ground be perpetuated, that a monument be erected on it.

## Wanted: Prisons

Too many Southern California communities have offered sites for the \$1,000,000 State hospital for the insane, the new \$375,000 State prison for junior felons. (News Review, Oct. 14-20). So many have been the sites offered that the joint legislative committee, appointed to select the locations, has been befogged, confused, unable to inspect them all, to reach a decision. Therefore, the expedite decision, the committees, meeting last week at Sacramento, appointed a sub-committee, empowered it to investigate the some 50 sites offered, to consider location, transportation, climatic conditions, area, nature of lands and surroundings.

The sub-committee: Director of Institutions Earl J. Jensen, Director of Penology James Johnston, Director of Finance A. E. Heron. Both institutions, the joint committee, agreed, last week, should have about 1000 acres of land, of which at least 400 acres are tillable to sell or rent the property. In the case of multiple listing the owners need have no fear in agreeing to such exclusive listing because of the second fundamental provision of this system. This second provision requires that every multiple listing must be sent to a central office the day it is received from the owner and on the following day the central office makes copies of this listing and places it in the hands of all members of the Torrance Realty Bur-



JESS E. STEPHENS  
... discovered a "tepa-vacuum"

ble, as it is desired to use farming as a re-habilitation vocation both for the mentally ill and the criminal. Further, it is planned to utilize vocational training, and railroad connection is therefore essential.

Indication was, last week, that the outstanding sites for the State prison are in the following regions: Between Palmdale and Lancaster in the Antelope Valley; between Norco and Wineville in Riverside County; in the Victor Valley, near Victorville, San Bernardino County.

## "Act of God"

The once flowing canals of the Kern County Canal Company are dry and dusty. Where cool waters last summer swirled murmuring, lizards now slither over hot sands. Therefore a question being argued in the courts of Bakersfield: 1) Where did the water go? 2) Why did the water go? Water consumers, wrathful, grew more and more worried, then angry as they saw the supply gradually diminish. When it was gone, they gathered together, discussed their grievances, decided the blame rested upon the Kern County Land Company. Consumers asserted that the Land company had taken the water for its own use, had left them thirsty. With this as the basis of their offensive they took the matter to court.

Last week, in court, where had congregated an imposing array of witnesses and attorneys on the benches of the courtroom, the Kern County Land Company launched its defensive against the irate water consumers. Said the Land Company: "The shortage of water is due to the will of God."

All through the week the case progressed. Observers thought the complainants had the best of the argument. Reason: Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Friday, residents for fourteen years in the affected vicinity, proved star witnesses for the complainants. They said it was no act of God, but an act of the water company.

## Rodent War

Not included in the official census last year of the City of Santa Barbara were 70,000 members of the rat family. Even were the grey rodents rightly supposed to be included in the city's census, Santa Barbara census-takers would have been at loss to number them correctly. For it was not until Rat Exterminator M. G. Jorgensen of the county health department began his anti-rat campaign that the city knew its rat population.

Santa Barbara's city council a month ago was worried because of rat infestation in Santa Barbara's environs. Councilmen knew rats carried disease, and in all had no good points. Therefore they instructed Jorgensen to eradicate them. This modern Pied Piper, equipped with poison, set to work

## and after he had finished, to the city councilmen he exhibited 70,000 rat tails, trophies of his rodent war.

Jorgensen's campaign brought to light the fact that Santa Barbara's palm trees were the greatest rodent hazard; that as many as forty rats were found living in a single palm tree; that the rats living in the trees enter residences through the eaves or roof tops.

## Union Station

Many a tourist has snickered, made fun of the railroad stations of Los Angeles. Rugged farmers from the Middle West have observed that many a small city "where they come from" is better equipped in the matter of railroad stations than is touted Los Angeles, a metropolitan city. As with the exception of the Southern-Pacific station, boastful tourists' statements have been true. Truly small-town, ancient, decrepit are the structures which house the baggage masters, "red-eye" ticket vendors, newsstands of the Union Pacific and Santa Fe railroads at their Los Angeles stations.

Far-seeing Los Angeles have long agitated for a union railroad station to accommodate Los Angeles and Wineville, a metropolitan city. With this the exception, the Southern-Pacific station, boastful tourists' statements have been true. Truly small-town, ancient, decrepit are the structures which house the baggage masters, "red-eye" ticket vendors, newsstands of the Union Pacific and Santa Fe railroads at their Los Angeles stations.

Since the people of Los Angeles voted, several years ago, to compel the railroads to create a union station, many have been the delays and legal quagmires with which they have been confronted. Appeals have been made to the State Rail Commission, the State Supreme Court, the Inter-State Commerce Commission—only to be thwarted each time by counter action and appeals by the railroads. Supreme in authority is the Inter-State Commerce Commission. But the inter-state body, working carefully, doubted it had authority to do more than authorize the necessary change of the railroad track routes.

Counter for the Inter-State Commerce Commission, however, are of the opinion that the Inter-State Commerce Commission does have authority to order the proposed union station.

Retaliating, the Inter-State Commerce Commission immediately filed a counter brief with the Supreme Court, reiterating its contention that it has no authority to order the railroads to construct and operate the proposed union station at the Plaza site.

Early last week the final battle was begun when the Inter-State Commerce Commission's Attorney D. W. Knowlton filed Los Angeles' Attorneys Thelen and Jess E. Stephens before the bar of the Supreme Court. The issue before the court was narrowed down to the question of how much power Congress gave the Commission in the Transportation Act of 1920.

The Commission's Attorney Knowlton contended: "We do not believe that Congress intended to give the Commission broad authority to order the erection of union passenger stations."

Los Angeles' Attorney Stephens contended:

1) A previous decision of the Supreme Court on the Los Angeles station case ruled that the power station was the mandatory order asked for by the city lies with the Inter-State Commerce Commission, and that the court therefore has already committed itself that the Commission has the vested power.

2) The California Supreme Court has already ruled that the State Railroad Commission does not have the power to order construction of the union station and that this power is vested in the Inter-State Commerce Commission. Should the Supreme Court rule that the Inter-State Commerce Commission does not have this power there would be no commission in this country capable of enforcing orders to the railroads.

# erald

Torrance  
Population  
8200

5c per Copy

## iko, Child of Peace, Celebrates 11th Birthday

Akiko Ikato, who first saw light of day on the morning the us ceased firing November 8, celebrated her eleventh anniversary by giving a party to her teachers and play-mates on Tuesday at noon.

Akiko explained that her name, named her Akiko which "Peace" in the Japanese door luncheon, both of which were tempting and attractive.

## Contributions for Crippled Children Are Unnecessary

After question, crippled children street improvements, and Torrance zoning were among the items that came up for discussion Tuesday at the semi-luncheon meeting of the Board of Commerce forum held at the Canteen.

Interested in the water question in determining the best form that the petitions should take, however, Mr. Whyte stated that he expected that this matter would be settled in a short time and the petitions ready for signatures.

East Torrance Zoning Secretary Carl Hyde stated that the Chamber of Commerce is assisting the residents of East Torrance in initiating proceedings for proper zoning in the Shoestring Strip.

A discussion regarding the possibility of a public improvement bond issue for the water question in determining the best form that the petitions should take, however, Mr. Whyte stated that he expected that this matter would be settled in a short time and the petitions ready for signatures.

## Divine at Church Sunday

After C. Loomis, newly appointed district superintendent of the Beach district will preach morning. This eminent dignitary to Torrance for the first time.

## Torrance Drug Stores Ticket Offices to East

Tickets may now be secured at the Beacon Drug Company and the Torrance Pharmacy to any point on three trans-continental stage lines and from Eastern points to Torrance and other Southern California cities, according to officials of the Motor Coach Company.

## Scout Troops Change Leaders and Meeting Place

Scout Troop of Torrance going a change. The girls who formerly met at a Millard will meet at the home of Mrs. R. B. Smith.

## District Deputy Visits Local Lodge

District Deputy Pearl Andrews of Hermosa Beach paid an official visit to the local Bethel of Job's Daughters, last Thursday evening, accompanied by Mr. White, associate guardian of the Hermosa Beach Bethel, and the guardian secretary, also of Hermosa Beach.

## ONE IN JAIL; OTHER HAS 3 BROKEN RIBS

Trio of Mexicans Crash Into Car on Redondo Blvd.—Charged with Drunking

Angel Navarro of Pueblo, is suffering from three broken ribs and Felipe Ortega is lodged in the city jail as the result of an accident on Redondo boulevard about 7:55 Tuesday evening.

## NATIVE SHRUBS LANDSCAPING CLASS TOPIC

Use of California Grown Products in Beautifying Homes Rouses Interest

California native shrubs and their use in beautifying the California type of home will be the topic of discussion at Mr. E. Merrill's landscaping class at the evening high school next Monday evening from 7 till 9.

## Auxiliary on Trip to Sawtelle

American Legion Auxiliary members will go to Sawtelle next Tuesday to spend the afternoon at bridge with the boys there.

## NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS!

TWO ISSUES A WEEK 'TIL CHRISTMAS  
Look for Your Paper Tuesday Afternoon and Early Friday Morning, Beginning Next Week

Beginning with next Tuesday, November 19, the Torrance Herald will be published twice a week until after Christmas.

## one Chamber Planning Dinner Saturday, 23rd

The Chamber of Commerce a Blumsted dinner, Saturday, November 23, at Boosters hall, for is being given by the Chamber committee, composed of W. Jennings, George and Charles LeBoeuf.

## Legion Auxiliary Going to Bell

A large number of members of the American Legion Auxiliary from the local unit are planning to attend a meeting of the 19th district to be held tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock at the Ebell club, located at 827 Fishburn avenue, Bell.

SHOPPING  
TIL  
CHRISTMAS

which provides a penalty of not to exceed \$500 fine or six months in jail or both for engaging in the contracting business without a license. Warning has been given by letter to all whose names appear on a list of contractors secured by the department who have not filed applications. This will be followed by a second and final warning if the first is ignored, and prosecutions will be instituted against those who remain unregistered.

It will Be a Scotchman Who Will Find a Way to Condense Shampoo Suds Back into Soap.

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